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Senate

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. STEVENS).

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer.

Let us pray.

O God, who hears and answers prayer, bend down and listen to our thanksgiving and praise. We can rest because of Your goodness. You keep our eyes from tears and our feet from stumbling. Give our Senators strength sufficient for today's work. Be in their heads and in their understanding. Be in their eyes and in their looking. Be in their mouths and in their speaking. Be in their hearts and in their thinking.

Help them to remember that trials and challenges strengthen their faith until it is more precious than gold. Lead each of us to Your truth, and may our lives show that You have chosen us for Your glory.

We pray in Your powerful Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The PRESIDENT pro tempore led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, there will be a period for the transaction of morning business for 1 hour, with the first 30 minutes under the control of the Democratic leader or his designee and the second 30 minutes under the con-

trol of the majority leader or his designee.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, this morning we will have a 60-minute period of morning business prior to resuming S. 5, the Class Action Fairness bill. I will have a brief statement shortly and the Democratic leader will have a brief statement. Then we will follow those statements with a 60-minute period for morning business.

When we resume the bill, Senator PRYOR will offer an amendment relating to State attorneys general. In addition, we have Senator DURBIN's amendment on mass actions pending from yesterday. Today we will begin disposing of these amendments as well as others that may be offered.

Yesterday we had a full day of debate as we did on Monday afternoon, but in order to finish the bill this week we need to begin the voting process, voting on these proposed amendments throughout the day. I am not encouraging amendments, but I do hope that if Members intend to offer amendments to the underlying legislation, they will make themselves available today so we can make the necessary progress.

I thank my colleagues on both sides of the aisle in advance as we work through this very important bipartisan bill, and I look forward to a very productive session today.

AFRICAN-AMERICAN HISTORY MONTH

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, on the afternoon of February 1, 1960, in Greensboro, NC, four college freshmen from North Carolina A&T University

changed the course of history. In an act of remarkable bravery, the four teens strode into the downtown Woolworth and sat at the "whites only" lunch counter. They ordered coffee, soda, and donuts, and as they expected, the store refused to serve them.

The young men waited in their seats until closing time. They didn't know at the time whether they would be beaten, whether they would be dragged out, whether they would be arrested. But they did know right from wrong and that segregation was an intolerable injustice.

The next day the four returned with two classmates. Again, the same order. They attempted to place an order for lunch. Again, the store refused.

Each day more and more students joined the Greensboro Four, including white students from nearby colleges. By the end of the week nearly all of those more than 60, 65 seats at the lunch counter were filled. Eventually hundreds of sympathizers filled Greensboro's downtown streets.

Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. was already leading protests in other parts of the South against segregation in schools and on buses, but challenging the segregationist practices of privately owned business was something that was brand new. These four young men had opened a new front on the battle for civil rights.

In the next weeks and months the sit-ins spread to department stores, to clothing shops, to restaurants. In my own hometown of Nashville, and Raleigh and Charlotte and Atlanta and dozens of other cities throughout the South, thousands and thousands of students and civil rights advocates staged sit-ins at businesses that had discriminated. Many of the participants suffered arrest and heckling and violence, but these brave citizens were determined to end the scourge of segregation.

By April of that year, the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee,

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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